Maharashtra-Karnataka Border

3596. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the date on which Mahajan Commission submitted its report to the Government of India suggesting solution for the long pending border dispute between Karnataka and Maharashtra;

(b) whether the commission has suggested that Kannada areas like Sholapur and other adjacent area should be merged with Karnataka;

(c) whether the Government of India has a proposal to implement the recommendations of the Mahajan Commisison in toto;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons thereof; and

(f) the time by which the same would be implemented in toto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The Mahajan Commission submitted its report to the Government of India on 25.8.1967.

(b) The Mahajan Commission recommended the following areas for transfer from the State of Maharashtra to the State of Mysore :

(i) The whole of taluka of Akkalkot along with the town of Akkalkot;

(ii) 44 villages in the taluka of Jath;

(iii) 65 villages in the taluka of South Sholapur, and

(iv) 15 villages in the taluka of Gadhinglaj;

The Commission rejected the counter claim of the State of Mysore to the city of Sholapur, the taluka of Chandgad and the taluka of North Sholapur. Some areas from the State of Mysore were also recommended by the Commission for transfer to the State of Maharashtra.

(c) to (f). The Government of India are of the view that this dispute can be resolved with the willing cooperation of the State Governments concerned. The Government of India will be glad to extend all possible assistance to them in this regard.

The Chief Minister of Maharashtra has recently written to the Chief Minister of Karnataka expressing this willingness for mutual discussions on the long pending border issue.

Benefits to Freedom Fighters Pensioners

3597. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether recent decision by the Supreme Court has enabled more persons to avail the benefits extended to the freedom fighters;

(b) whether the freedom fighters granted amnesty by the British Government have become entitled for pension as a result thereof; and

(c) whether the discharged persons of the naval mutiny would also benefit therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). The Hon'ble Supreme Court has passed certain decision in various cases from time to time. Notwithstanding the decision(s) of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, it has always been the aim and intention of the government that no genuine freedom fighter is denied his legitimate claim for grant of pension.

Freedom Fighters who were granted general amnesty by the British Government without asking for the same or tendering an apology for securing premature release before completion of their sentence are entitled for grant of pension. Similarly, the persons who were discharged/dismissed from service on their taking part in the Royal Indian Navy Mutiny are also entitled for grant of samman pension under the provisions of the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme.

Allocation of Neptha

3598. SHRI TARA CHAND BHAGORA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Rajasthan had made a request to the Government of India for the allocation of Neptha for production of Soda Ash, Urea, diamonia Phosphate and to set up a Petrochemical Complex in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THIS MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Proposals for Godowns

3599. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of proposals received from the State/ Union Territories for providing assistance for the construction of godowns during 1995-96 and 1996-97, State-wise;

(b) the details of proposals sanctioned alongwith the assistance provided by the Government during the said period, State-wise;